

NEW SOUTH WALES.

MONTHLY SUMMARY
OF
BUSINESS STATISTICS

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SECTION A.—RAINFALL AND PRODUCTION.

1. RAINFALL—INDEX.

Index showing Weighted Average Ratio of Actual to Normal Rainfall.

(Average rainfall for each month = 100.)

Month.	Sheep Districts.					Wheat Districts.				Dairying Districts (Coastal only).			
	N.	C.	S.	W.	T.	N.	C.	S.	T.	N.	C.	S.	T.
1940.													
January ...	32	27	33	27	30	24	24	24	24	59	61	50	58
February ...	95	8	12	17	34	87	5	9	18	65	18	20	47
March ...	128	18	5	32	46	111	15	5	21	132	88	6	104
April ...	105	208	271	250	204	122	209	255	227	66	107	161	88
May ...	18	31	48	35	33	13	32	43	36	39	39	40	39
June ...	20	13	21	3	17	22	14	16	17	80	21	29	58
July ...	5	20	38	18	21	9	24	42	33	12	32	19	18
August ...	33	42	38	22	36	38	37	35	36	96	111	16	90
September ...	82	141	117	81	109	91	145	108	116	18	80	143	50
October ...	40	10	7	16	18	42	10	6	11	81	125	25	85
November ...	53	55	58	20	52	56	51	52	52	73	97	99	82
December ...	133	139	116	79	123	132	160	115	129	172	153	165	167
1941.													
January ...	247	320	366	365	319	274	246	387	336	145	153	124	144

N.—Northern; S.—Southern; C.—Central; W.—Western; T.—Total, all districts.

2. WOOL.

It is anticipated that the total production of wool in New South Wales for 1940-41, will be approximately 518,000,000 lb. as compared with 546,273,000 lb. in 1939-40 and 437,141,000 in 1938-39.

Under agreement with the British Government the wool clips of Australia are being disposed of by appraisalment for the duration of the war and one year thereafter; the agreed average price for seasons 1939-40 and 1940-41 was 10·75d. sterling or 13·4375d. per lb. Australian Currency.

Month.	Number of Bales Received into Store in Sydney.							
	During Month.				Total for Season to end of Month.			
	1937-38.	1938-39.	1939-40.	1940-41.	1937-38.	1938-39.	1939-40.	1940-41.
July ...	53,653	29,882	53,933	86,083	53,653	29,882	53,933	86,083
August ...	185,140	122,485	159,420	217,280	238,793	152,367	213,353	303,363
September ...	308,171	270,990	357,205	276,849	546,964	423,357	570,558	580,212
October ...	265,589	255,093	332,084	290,271	812,553	678,450	902,642	870,483
November ...	195,082	180,128	189,868	168,109	1,007,635	858,578	1,092,510	1,038,592
December ...	60,705	57,678	64,573	46,775	1,068,340	916,256	1,157,083	1,085,367
January ...	18,229	19,603	23,617	17,462	1,086,569	935,859	1,180,700	1,102,829
February ...	20,202	20,022	24,229	.....	1,106,771	955,881	1,204,929	.....
March ...	26,713	24,393	29,138	.....	1,133,484	980,274	1,234,067	.....
April ...	25,761	34,637	35,716	.....	1,159,245	1,014,911	1,269,783	.....
May ...	29,528	34,058	31,711	.....	1,188,773	1,048,969	1,301,494	.....
June ...	19,615	29,138	44,240	.....	1,208,388	1,078,107	1,345,734	.....

3. WHEAT.

Production in New South Wales. (Compiled from returns of wheatgrowers.)

Season.	Area Sown.		Yield for Grain.
	Total Sown.	Harvested For Grain.	
	acres.	acres.	bushels.
Average 1930-31			
to 1939-40	4,712,000	4,343,000	60,149,000
1938-39	5,246,000	4,651,000	59,898,000
1939-40	4,681,000	4,381,000	76,552,000
1940-41*	4,679,000	†	24,500,000

* Preliminary.

† Not yet available.

According to returns of wheatgrowers at time of sowing, the total area sown with wheat in 1940, was 4,679,000 acres, including 4,335,000 acres intended to be harvested for grain. Returns of wheatgrowers indicate that the yield for grain for 1940-41 was approximately 24½ million bushels.

Disposal of the harvest is controlled by the Australian Wheat Board, which administers compulsory pools.

4. BUTTER.

The production of butter in factories in the six months ended December, 1940 was twenty-four per cent. less than in the corresponding period last season.

The exportable unsold surplus of Australian butter in 1939-40 and 1940-41 was purchased by the British Government at an agreed price for choicest butter of 137s. per cwt., f.o.b., Australian ports. The price of sales for local consumption has been fixed at 158s. 8d. per cwt. (wholesale) since June 8, 1938.

Month.	Output of Butter (New South Wales factories).				
	Average, 1932-33 to 1934-35	1937-38.	1938-39.	1939-40.	1940-41.
	Thousand lb.				
Year ended 30th June ...	135,664	115,930	113,841	112,020	
Six months ended Dec. ...	65,146	53,855	51,093	57,717	44,080
July	5,877	4,161	4,437	6,585	5,047
August	6,380	4,842	4,887	6,355	5,042
September	8,222	7,029	6,915	7,335	6,453
October	13,333	9,315	10,842	10,164	7,988
November	15,080	13,340	12,589	13,456	8,185*
December	16,254	15,168	11,423	13,822	11,365
January	16,018	14,592	9,707	12,629	
February	14,529	14,019	10,826	10,602	
March	14,355	12,411	12,137	9,562	
April	11,084	9,088	11,880	9,165	
May	8,545	6,693	10,456	7,286	
June	5,987	5,272	7,742	5,059	

* Revised.

5. COAL.

The quantity of coal hauled by N.S.W. Government railways was approximately 620,000 tons in January, 1941, compared with 501,952 tons in January, 1940.

6. MANUFACTURING INDUSTRY.

Tabulations embracing monthly returns from 42 large factories show the following results which afford some indication of trends in the manufacturing industry:—

Month.	Factory Sales.				Employees.				Weekly Salaries and Wages.			
	1937.	1938.	1939.	1940	1937.	1938.	1939.	1940.	1937	1938.	1939.	1940.
	Thousand £.				Hundreds.				Hundred £.			
January...	2,616	2,766	2,738	3,212	212	231	231	235	786	928	950	1,004
February...	2,853	3,153	3,070	3,468	221	232	232	239	839	939	964	1,015
March...	3,147	3,570	3,406	3,562	222	232	229	239	839	949	961	1,024
April...	3,106	2,979	2,791	3,581	223	232	230	232	844	922	939	973
May...	2,938	3,241	3,242	3,498	222	233	230	231	853	961	954	964
June...	2,958	2,935	3,013	3,083	224	236	228	236	868	947	927	1,033
July...	3,064	3,029	2,961	3,512	227	238	228	241	871	975	950	1,072
August...	3,025	3,141	3,386	3,520	228	238	230	243	883	968	954	1,069
September...	3,231	3,407	3,669	3,634	229	237	231	248	903	967	974	1,088
October...	3,147	3,005	3,421	3,969	235	239	236	252	941	971	992	1,114
November...	3,437	3,305	3,841	3,911	236	240	239	257	959	989	1,018	1,145
December...	3,452	3,327	3,606	4,147	236	236	240	258	1,000	1,008	1,045	1,177
Average (January—December)...	3,081	3,155	3,262	3,591	226	235	232	243	882	960	969	1,056

For the volume of monthly employment in all factories, see Table 21.

7. BUILDING INDUSTRY.

Value of permits to erect private new buildings and additions (compiled from returns of Municipal and certain Shire Councils). Government buildings are excluded:—

Year.	Month of January.				December Quarter.			
	Sydney and Suburbs.	City of Sydney.	Suburbs of Sydney.		Industrial and Rural Towns.		Total, New South Wales.*	
	Total New Buildings and Additions.	New Buildings and Additions.	New Buildings.		New Buildings.		New Buildings and Additions.	
			No. of Permits.	Value.	No.	Value.		
1938...	£ 904,774	£ 158,617	451	£ 523,419	1,171	£ 936,291	£ 4,645,626	
1939...	864,192	119,853	505	619,219	924	681,215	3,785,609	
1940...	699,143	82,864	428	536,227	727	748,922	4,756,031	
1941...	695,545	24,438	499	587,918				

* Including seven Shires adjoining Metropolitan Area. With few exceptions Shires do not supply returns.

The following dissection of private building permits granted in 129 Industrial and Rural Towns in New South Wales, shows the total value for each of the principal classes of building:—

Period.	129 Industrial and Rural Towns.						
	Value of New Buildings and Alterations and Additions.						
	Houses.		Flats.	Hotels.	Factories, Shops, and Public Garages.	Other (Offices, Hospitals, etc.).	Total.
	Brick.	Wood, Fibro, etc.					
December Quarter.	Thousand £.						
1939 ...	189	390	18	92	94	119	902
1940 ...	139	324	25	131	153	130	902
Year ended December							
1938 ...	874	2,033	155	555	930	732	5,279
1939 ...	751	1,931	148	406	527	498	4,261
1940 ...	633	1,495	83	395	507	631	3,744

In addition to totals for private buildings shown above, values of contracts accepted for the erection of buildings on behalf of Governments and semi-Governmental authorities in Sydney and Suburbs and in New South Wales, were as follow:—

Area.	Value of New Buildings and Additions (Governmental).			
	Month of January.		Seven Months ended January.	
	1940	1941	1940	1941
	Thousand £.			
Sydney and Suburbs...	15	324	751	900
New South Wales...	274	390	1,340	2,431

SECTION B.—TRADE.

8. WHOLESALE TRADE.

Approximate Amount of Sales (N.S.W.) by Traders Registered under Sales Tax Acts.
Total Taxable and Exempt Goods.

Period.	1934.	1935.	1936.	1937.	1938.	1939.	1940.
Million £.							
Year ended 31st December ...	137·22	151·21	161·87	191·83	192·97	200·29	
Eleven Months ended Nov. ...	124·53	137·23	147·89	174·66	175·96	181·97	185·76
January	9·87	10·85	11·27	13·74	14·21	13·24	16·33
February	10·37	10·82	12·72	14·64	15·73	16·54	14·64
March	10·92	12·39	13·11	15·43	15·79	15·78	16·97
April	11·25	12·00	13·45	16·45	16·83	15·79	17·88
May	11·64	13·14	13·44	16·50	16·87	17·46	14·85
June	10·91	11·60	13·21	14·98	14·98	14·88	17·07
July	11·46	12·15	14·17	16·55	16·23	15·28	16·74
August	11·40	13·54	13·13	16·27	15·28	16·81	17·17
September	12·25	12·84	13·77	16·28	17·45	19·44	17·48
October	12·47	14·70	15·10	16·47	15·66	19·22	18·50
November	11·99	13·20	14·52	17·35	16·93	17·53	18·13
December	12·69	13·98	13·98	17·17	17·00	18·32	

Statistics of monthly employment in wholesale trade are shown in Table 21.

9. RETAIL TRADE.

Returns collected by the Retail Traders' Association Research Bureau in conjunction with the Commonwealth Bank from the principal Sydney stores indicate the following increases or decreases per cent. for periods shown below compared with corresponding periods of previous year :—

Period.	Number of Business Days in Period.		Net Sales (Value).	Value of Stock.	Wages and Salaries Paid.	Number of Employees.	Three Monthly Moving Average ended month shown.	
	Previous Year.	Current Year.					Net Sales (Value).	Wages and Salaries Paid.
Percentage increase + or decrease —								
Year ended December—								
1936	303	304	+ 6·2	+ 4·7	+ 6·4	+ 4·9		
1937	304	303	+ 7·7	+ 4·8	+ 10·5	+ 3·7		
1938	303	303	+ 4·8	+ 5·2	+ 11·6	+ 5·0		
1939	303	303	+ 2·4	+ 2·0	+ 2·6	+ 0·9		
1940	303	305	+ 6·3	+ 17·0	+ 4·0	+ 1·9		
1940.								
January	24	25	+ 7·8	+ 9·1	+ 4·7	+ 0·4	+ 3·8	+ 2·1
February	24	25	+ 10·6	+ 12·8	+ 6·5	+ 1·9	+ 6·2	+ 3·5
March	27	24	— 7·6	+ 19·2	+ 1·3	+ 2·1	+ 3·2	+ 4·2
April	22	25	+ 14·4	+ 19·6	+ 5·3	+ 1·5	+ 5·5	+ 4·3
May*	27	27	+ 7·0	+ 19·2	+ 3·2	+ 1·2	+ 4·5	+ 3·2
June*	25	24	— 2·1	+ 20·0	— 1·2	+ 0·3	+ 6·3	+ 2·4
July	26	27	+ 11·2	+ 23·5	+ 3·7	+ 0·5	+ 5·6	+ 2·0
August*	27	27	+ 12·7	+ 25·5	+ 2·2	+ 5·3	+ 7·3	+ 1·7
September*	26	25	— 1·0	+ 19·9	+ 4·3	+ 4·7	+ 7·5	+ 3·4
October	25	26	+ 5·6	+ 14·8	+ 7·0	+ 1·2	+ 5·5	+ 4·5
November*	26	26	+ 13·0	+ 12·0	+ 5·3	+ 2·1	+ 5·9	+ 5·5
December*	24	24	+ 5·7	+ 9·8	+ 4·9	+ 1·9	+ 7·8	+ 5·7

* May, 1940, June, 1939, August, 1940, September, 1939, November, 1940, and December, 1939 included five late shopping nights.

Further particulars of monthly employment in retail trade are shown in Table 21.

SECTION C.—TRANSPORT AND TRAFFIC.

10. RAILWAYS.

NEW SOUTH WALES RAILWAYS REVENUE AND BUSINESS.

The financial results of operations were:—

	Month of December.			Six Months ended 31st December.		
	Gross Revenue.	Working Expenses.*	Excess of Revenue over Working Expenses.	Gross Revenue.	Working Expenses.*	Excess of Revenue over Working Expenses.
	£	£	£	£	£	£
1938 ...	1,828,336	1,148,879	679,457	9,653,327	7,079,762	2,573,565
1939 ...	1,908,973	1,175,756	733,217	10,520,698	7,042,549	3,478,149
1940 ...	1,911,387	1,283,581	627,806	11,984,143	7,503,060	4,481,083

* Interest and Exchange on loan capital are not included as working expenses.

The amount of interest chargeable against the railways in 1939-40 was £5,350,000, exclusive of £1,210,750 sinking fund, exchange, etc.

	Month of December.		Six Months ended 31st December.	
	Net Goods Ton-mileage.*	Passenger Journeys.	Net Goods Ton-mileage.*	Passenger Journeys.
	thousands.	thousands.	thousands.	thousands.
1938 ...	209,330	15,925	943,657	95,403
1939 ...	196,890	15,067	1,004,793	89,127
1940 ...	160,997	16,520	1,233,881	94,538

* Goods (including wayleave) and livestock. Ton-mileage represents the weight times the distance (miles) it was carried.

All fares and certain rates of freight were increased by ten per cent. from 1st March, 1939.

11. TRAMWAYS AND OMNIBUSES.

SERVICES OPERATED BY THE DEPARTMENT OF ROAD TRANSPORT—NEW SOUTH WALES.

PERIOD.	SYDNEY AND SUBURBS.			NEWCASTLE AND SUBURBS.		
	Earnings.	Excess of Earnings over Working Expenses.*	Passengers carried.†	Earnings.	Excess of Earnings over Working Expenses.*	Passengers carried.
Month of December—	£	£	thousands.	£	£	thousands.
1938 ...	365,171	62,946	31,676	27,927	6,755	2,258
1939 ...	363,560	61,346	31,003	27,479	6,770	2,263
1940 ...	382,768	94,463	33,142	29,961	9,948	2,495
Six Months ended 31st December—						
1938 ...	1,999,007	272,476	174,246	143,703	24,097	11,854
1939 ...	2,038,211	293,312	174,041	150,459	28,509	12,469
1940 ...	2,148,290	394,958	185,422	162,323	38,397	13,369

* Sinking Fund, Interest on Loan Capital, Exchange and Depreciation (amounting in 1939-40 to £671,000) are not included as working expenses.

† Excludes Sydney Harbour Bridge passengers whose journey did not extend beyond the Bridge Section.

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12. MOTOR VEHICLES.

NUMBER OF REGISTERED MOTOR VEHICLES (N.S.W.) AS AT VARIOUS DATES.

(Exclusive of Vehicles of Defence Services.)

Class.	1939.		1940.					1941.
	31st January.	31st August.	31st January.	30th June.	30th September.	30th November.	31st December.	31st January.
Cars ...	212,632	216,633	215,477	209,510	204,818	205,828	207,446	207,378
Lorries and Vans	76,447	77,639	77,186	75,590	74,720	75,371	75,644	75,616
Trailers ...	6,147	6,538	6,917	7,129	7,104	7,275	7,542	7,631
Tractors†	964	1,102	1,161	1,209	1,186	1,217	1,222	1,227
Cycles—Solo ...	17,229	17,111	16,168	15,283	14,935	15,002	15,143	15,060
Cycles—Side-car	6,990	6,884	6,558	6,209	6,117	6,109	6,132	6,142
Omnibuses ...	731	794	813	823	851	859	870	870
Taxi-cabs ...	1,266	1,331	1,346	1,355	1,356	1,357	1,357	1,358
Traders' Plates	1,095	1,187	1,078	1,066	1,038	1,036	1,007	900
Total ...	323,501	329,219	326,704	318,234	312,125	314,054	316,363	316,182

† Excluding tractors used on farms only.

Average Weekly Number of New Vehicles Registered.*

Year.	Cars (Including Cabs and Omnibuses).						Lorries and Vans.					
	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Jan.	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Jan.
1936-37	301	323	332	344	402	408	163	171	172	193	183	137
1937-38	414	415	421	483	534	427	210	200	221	246	222	163
1938-39	340	368	343	428	457	325	147	181	177	202	163	117
1939-40	322	270	314	368	344	246	146	126	145	169	127	87
1940-41	88	118	128	173	163	141	53	63	61	77	69	53

* Excluding trailers.

13. WIRELESS LICENSES.

BROADCAST LISTENERS' LICENSES IN FORCE IN N.S.W.

(Excluding Experimental Licenses.)

End of Month.	1936-37.	1937-38.	1938-39.	1939-40.	1940-41.
	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.
September ...	330,902	376,783	417,853	432,795	479,485
October ...	336,091	378,728	419,912	435,573	483,148
November ...	338,106	383,944	420,087	440,335	482,837
December ...	340,829	387,043	420,595	441,934	483,875
January ...	342,155	389,055	423,649	444,522	

SECTION D.—FINANCIAL.

14. SAVINGS BANK DEPOSITS (N.S.W.).†

As at June 30th.†	Amount of Deposits.	End of Month.	Amount of Deposits.		
			1939.	1940.	1941.
1929	£ 85,727,514	January ...	£ 86,824,101*	£ 86,715,917*	£ 85,571,744*
1930	82,465,430	February ...	86,591,320*	87,167,025*	
1931	69,810,769	March ...	86,269,445	86,758,977	
1932	71,647,869	April ...	86,222,208*	87,055,576*	
1933	72,307,685	May ...	86,097,258*	85,179,395*	
1934	75,714,070	June ...	87,473,789†	82,110,900†	
1935	77,906,402	July ...	87,201,203*	82,134,989*	
1936	79,999,948	August ...	86,957,281*	83,073,876*	
1937	81,952,399	September ...	86,557,014	83,827,434	
1938	86,015,685	October ...	86,751,263*	84,568,163*	
1939	87,473,789	November ...	86,684,205*	85,109,821*	
1940	82,110,900	December ...	86,581,054	84,884,067*	

* Approximate.

† Including accrued interest

‡ Amount at credit of depositors' accounts.

WAR SAVINGS CERTIFICATES: The net amount received from sales of certificates less re-purchases in New South Wales totalled £5,093,786 as at 31st December, 1940.

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15. TRADING BANKS*—DEPOSITS, ETC., IN AUSTRALIA.

December Quarter.	Deposits.	Cash in Aust.†	Treasury Bills.	Govt. and Municipal Securities.	Advances.
	thousand £	thousand £	thousand £	thousand £	thousand £
1938 ...	316,782	35,099	18,709	19,196	289,637
1939 ...	327,099	37,237	23,205	23,502	292,853
1940 ...	356,587	42,863	41,405	49,657	281,475

* Nine Private Banks.

† Exclusive of London Funds.

16. PRIVATE BUSINESS IN PRIVATE BANKS (N.S.W.).

(Excluding Commonwealth and Rural Banks, and excluding Government deposits and Government Securities in Private Trading Banks.)

December Quarter.	Deposits.			Advances.	Excess of Advances over Deposits.
	Bearing Interest (Fixed).	Not Bearing Interest (Current).	Total.		
	thousand £	thousand £	thousand £	thousand £	thousand £
1938 ...	63,905	49,415	113,320	121,423	8,103
1939 ...	65,015	55,601	120,616	122,737	2,121
1940 ...	65,957	67,682	133,639	115,434	(-) 18,205

(-) Denotes an excess of Deposits over Advances.

17. INTER-BANK CLEARINGS (SYDNEY).

(Value of cheques drawn on a Bank other than the Bank in which they were Deposited.)

Month.	1935.	1936.	1937.	1938.	1939.	1940.	1941.	1935.	1936.	1937.	1938.	1939.	1940.	1941.
	Amount—Million £							Index Numbers.						
January ...	56.9	66.4	76.7	67.5	66.5	82.7	90.3	75	89	101	97	98	110	117
February...	59.7	69.2	77.4	75.6	75.5	88.9	...	75	86	101	96	96	110	...
March ...	57.7	69.9	77.2	82.6	80.5	87.8	...	74	85	98	95	93	107	...
April ...	61.3	63.5	80.6	75.7	70.7	84.3	...	78	87	103	102	98	111	...
May ...	64.9	68.4	76.1	82.9	82.0	90.2	...	79	86	100	103	100	111	...
June ...	73.7	69.5	79.2	86.8	80.3	94.5	...	86	87	103	106	101	115	...
July ...	61.2	65.1	75.0	70.5	71.2	94.6	...	83	85	97	101	98	116	...
August ...	59.6	61.9	70.0	72.9	74.9	83.6	...	84	86	98	101	99	118	...
September	62.5	68.1	79.8	77.6	74.9	84.5	...	82	87	101	99	99	117	...
October ...	72.2	76.6	80.1	79.5	78.0	90.1	...	85	91	101	101	100	113	...
November	75.1	79.7	81.3	82.7	86.1	93.5	...	89	96	103	102	102	114	...
December	71.2	84.3	83.9	88.1	91.7	100.1	...	90	99	101	102	106	115	...
Year ...	776.0	842.6	937.3	942.4	932.3	1074.8	...	82	89	101	101	100	113	...

The index may be regarded as an approximate measure of changes in the volume of business transactions settled by cheques provided it is considered in conjunction with changes in price levels. It represents the ratio of each month's clearings to the average for the month concerned during the five years 1926-1930. This average is represented by 100 each month. Seasonal fluctuations have thus been eliminated. Casual fluctuations in monthly index numbers have been smoothed out by taking a three months' moving average, that is the index shown above for each month is the average of the actual index of that month and the preceding two months. It may be compared vertically or horizontally.

The index is adjusted to eliminate the effects of Treasury Bill and other special transactions on behalf of Governments and the effects of bank amalgamations. No adjustment has been made for normal growth or change of price levels. The amounts of clearings shown are the recorded totals less Treasury Bill transactions only.

18. INTEREST RATES IN NEW SOUTH WALES.

Period.	First Mortgages Registered.* Proportion of Total Amount for which Rates are disclosed.					Australian Consolidated Loans.† Interest yield (including Redemption)§ on all Securities Repayable:—			
	Rate of Interest per cent per annum.								
	4½ or under.	Over 4½-5.	Over 5-6.	Over 6-7.	Over 7.	Over 5 to 10 Years.	Over 10 to 15 Years.	Over 15 Years.	Over 5 Years. (over all Rate.)
	Per cent.	Per cent.	Per cent.	Per cent.	Per cent.	Per cent.—Per annum.			
	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
1936 ...	39	37	18	4	2	3 16 10	3 17 6	3 18 9	3 17 8
1937 ...	32	39	24	3	2	3 16 4	3 17 5	3 18 1	3 17 4
1938 ...	30	38	25	5	2	3 14 5	3 15 0	3 15 10	3 15 0
1939 ...	18	34	37	8	3	3 17 9	3 18 4	3 18 4	3 18 1
1940 ...	15	37	37	8	3	3 6 3	3 8 4	3 9 7	3 7 10
1940-March ...	16	33	38	10	3	3 10 10	3 12 0	3 12 5	3 11 8
June ...	14	37	38	8	3	3 5 8	3 8 1	3 8 6	3 7 4
September ...	16	39	36	6	3	3 4 0	3 6 5	3 7 10	3 5 11
October ...	16	36	39	6	3	3 2 10	3 6 2	3 8 1	3 5 5
November ...	17	39	36	6	2	3 1 0	3 4 10	3 7 4	3 4 1
December ...	16	41	36	5	2	3 1 6	3 4 11	3 7 3	3 4 1
1941-January ...	15	46	32	5	2	3 0 6	3 3 4	3 6 1	3 2 10

*Interest rates on first mortgages are the average for the three months ended in the month shown.

†Minimum prices for sales of Consolidated Loans on Stock Exchanges in Australia were fixed from 15th June, 1940.

§ Calculated to latest date of redemption in respect of loans with optional dates of maturity.

19. REAL ESTATE TRANSACTIONS (N.S.W.).

(Registered under Real Property Act and Registration of Deeds Act.)

Month.	Consideration of Sales.					Amount of Mortgages.*				
	1937.	1938.	1939.	1940.	1941.	1937.	1938.†	1939.†	1940.	1941.
	Thousand £.									
January ...	2,954	2,383	2,449	1,884	2,383	1,861	1,771	1,591	1,480	1,147
February ...	2,596	3,285	2,438	2,524	.....	1,688	1,868	1,841	1,428	.....
March ...	2,992	3,280	3,623	2,464	.....	2,134	2,036	2,225	1,686	.....
April ...	2,792	2,770	2,245	2,392	.....	1,607	2,359	2,025	1,560	.....
May ...	2,716	3,989	3,090	2,908	.....	1,850	2,727	2,112	1,449	.....
June ...	2,879	2,898	2,613	2,464	.....	1,842	2,604	1,658	1,305	.....
July ...	4,692	2,894	2,919	3,217	.....	2,550	2,285	1,950	1,747	.....
August ...	2,925	4,262	3,068	2,259	.....	1,771	2,184	2,770	1,099	.....
September ...	2,665	3,079	2,934	3,149	.....	1,593	2,085	1,501	1,240	.....
October ...	3,079	3,111	2,330	2,885	.....	2,241	2,153	1,713	1,144	.....
November ...	3,478	2,671	2,381	2,430	.....	2,694	2,565	1,702	1,259	.....
December ...	3,585	2,797	2,067	2,477	.....	1,980	2,343	1,344	1,100	.....
Year ...	37,353	37,419	32,157	31,953	.....	23,811	26,967†	22,444†	16,497	.....

* Including new mortgages and renewals as registered.

† Totals for months are approximate and aggregate differs slightly from annual total.

NOTE.—Mortgages and liens in some instances secure fluctuating advances, the amount of which is not recorded in the legal instruments. The amounts shown relate substantially to mortgages of fixed amounts for fixed periods, and exclude fluctuating advances (such as overdrafts) secured by mortgage. Mortgages providing collateral security of subsisting mortgages are included.

In January, 1941, mortgages, exclusive of those providing collateral security, amounted to £951,000 as compared with £1,146,000 and £1,461,000 in January, 1940 and 1939 respectively.

20. LIENS ON CROPS AND WOOL AND MORTGAGES ON LIVESTOCK.

(Registered under Liens on Crops and Wool and Stock Mortgages Act.)

	Month of January.			Year ended 31st December.		
	Crops.	Wool.	Livestock.	Crops.	Wool.	Livestock.
	£	£	£	£	£	£
1939 ...	140,509	179,032	144,566	1,923,271	2,953,093	1,546,540
1940 ...	67,547	216,256	112,228	1,773,308	3,160,305	1,398,187
1941 ...	277,907	274,624	69,423			

See note under Table 19.

SECTION E.—GENERAL.

21.—EMPLOYMENT IN NEW SOUTH WALES.

(APPROXIMATE NUMBER OF PERSONS EMPLOYED IN MIDDLE WEEK OF MONTH.)

Month.	Total in Employment. (a)	Total in Private Employment.	Total Employed in Factories.	Number Employed by Employers with 10 or more Employees in—			
				Mines.	Retail Trade.	Wholesale Trade.	Offices and Commerce.
1933—June (b) ...	594,273	477,577	139,744	15,504	38,544	17,638	20,340
1938—December...	859,694	708,949	230,100	21,709	58,716	26,340	27,581
1939—January ...	820,376	670,350	223,100	21,396	51,304	25,381	27,131
1939—October (d)	850,049	700,389	232,600(c)	21,308	51,615	25,926	28,349
November(d)	856,861	706,469	236,700(c)	21,034	52,658	26,200	29,088
December(d)	875,466	723,704	240,400(c)	21,403	58,967	26,468	29,438
1940—January (d)	851,355	699,981	235,900(c)	20,783	52,372	25,614	29,158
1940—October (d)	882,161	724,971	249,600(c)	21,275	51,600	25,830	30,051
November(d)	885,808	728,178	252,500(c)	21,210	53,199	26,028	30,452
December(d)	907,311	749,122	259,000(c)	21,297	60,357	26,326	29,688
1941—January (d)	885,514	727,512	254,000(c)	20,572	51,990	25,649	29,588

(a) Excluding Rationed Relief Workers.

(b) Census of 30th June.

(c) Subject to revision.

(d) Excluding men in the Forces who were not on pay sheets of private employers.

22.—INDEX OF EMPLOYMENT—N.S.W.

The following indexes relate to total employment and unemployment in New South Wales. Owing to the incidence of enlistments and entry into wage earning employment of persons not normally wage earners, it is not possible to compile an index of employment and unemployment for May, 1940, and later months, until further data are obtained.

Middle of Month.				Proportion of all who are dependent on and available for employment—			
				(a) Including full-time equivalent of part-time relief workers as employed.		(b) Excluding part-time relief workers from employed.	
				Employed.	Unemployed.	Employed.	Unemployed.
				per cent.	per cent.	per cent.	per cent.
1933—June Census	...	...	...	74.4	25.6	73.5	26.5
1938—April	...	...	...	96.0	4.0	94.9	5.1
May	...	...	...	95.8	4.2	94.8	5.2
1939—April	...	...	...	94.6	5.4	93.5	6.5
May	...	...	...	94.3	5.7	93.3	6.7
1940—April	...	...	...	94.0	6.0	93.3	6.7

NOTES.—(1) The index of employment is the ratio of number in employment (first column of Table 21) to estimated number of wage earners available for employment. The index of unemployment is the residue, but both indexes are derived by adjusting the census ratios in accordance with subsequent changes in number in employment and number estimated to be available for employment.

(2) "Number in employment" is virtually a direct record; "number of available wage earners" is an estimate derived by increasing the total of wage earners in employment (plus unemployed) at the Census of 1933 in ratio to the annual increase in persons aged 15 to 64 years, separate calculations being made for the sexes, and allowance made for net immigration. In order to increase the degree of precision in the index, adjustment is made in the number of available wage earners thus estimated to allow for (a) increase in the proportion of females who are wage earners (b) youths who were without occupation but were not recorded in the wage-earning group at the Census of 1933. Adjustment for seasonal variations in employment is not made except in respect of casual retail employees in December. Since the outbreak of war, adjustment is due on account of enlistments in naval, military and air forces, and on account of persons (not formerly of the wage-earning group), who have entered employment.

(3) At the census of 1933, 15,142 persons, or 1.8 per cent. of total dependent on employment, were unemployed by reason of illness, accident, etc., or voluntarily. These are excluded from the above indexes which relate to percentages of available wage earners employed and unemployed.

(4) The percentages of unemployment shown above are approximations relating to all wage earners of both sexes. Separate estimates for males and females cannot be made from the data available.

23. CONSUMPTION OF GAS AND ELECTRICITY.

Index of Monthly Sales of Gas and Electricity (Sydney).

(Based on number of units each equal to 3,412 British Thermal Units.)

Month.	Average, 1929 to 1931.	1929.	1930.	1931.	1932.	1934.	1936.	1937.	1938.	1939.	1940.	1941.
January ...	100	103	101	96	93	100	110	114	119	125	136	141
February ...	100	105	98	97	95	100	112	115	122	125	135	...
March ...	100	102	101	97	95	99	111	115	121	130	130	...
April ...	100	104	100	96	96	101	110	119	119	125	137	...
May ...	100	106	100	94	95	100	110	117	122	128	128	...
June ...	100	103	100	97	99	103	114	124	127	131	135	...
July ...	100	105	99	96	97	100	112	122	126	134	139	...
August ...	100	106	100	94	97	103	107	120	128	135	137	...
September ...	100	108	98	94	97	101	113	118	123	134	134	...
October ...	100	109	97	94	96	104	113	119	121	135	137	...
November ...	100	109	96	95	97	104	116	124	124	136	139	...
December ...	100	105	98	97	99	106	116	122	124	131	138	...
Year	100	105	99	96	96	102	112	119	123	131	135	...

24. INDEX OF WHOLESALE PRICES

(SYDNEY).

Average for year 1911=100 in all cases. Australian Currency.

RATES OF EXCHANGE.

Parities in January, 1929=100 in all cases.

Period.	Average Rates of Exchange.†				
	Wool.	Wheat.	Butter (Local Sales).	Non- Rural.‡	100 Com- modities Average.
1911 ...	100	100	100	100	100
1929 ...	162	140	204	184	186
1931 ...	105	70	154	180	155
1932 ...	96	88	140	177	152
1934 ...	147	77	133	167	150
1935 ...	128	92	142	165	153
1936 ...	168	120	142	165	156
1937 ...	193	148	146	173	168
1938 ...	129	101	157	172	168
1939 ...	135	73	160	175	164
1940 ...	158§	112	160	195	180
1939—August ...	128	64	160	172	159
1940—January ...	158§	108	160	192	172
February ...	158§	108	160	192	173
March ...	158§	108	160	191	174
April ...	158§	112	160	193	178
May ...	158§	114	160	193	178
June ...	158§	114	160	195	178
July ...	158§	114	160	195	176
August ...	158§	113	160	195	181
September ...	158§	113	160	195	182
October ...	158§	113	160	196	185
November ...	158§	113	160	198	187
December ...	158§	113	160	205	193
1941—January ...	158§	113	160	206	195

† Approximate; the above table expresses in the form of an index the amount of currency of the country first mentioned required to buy a fixed quantity of the second named country's currency.

§ Based on price paid by British Government for the Australian clip.

‡ Includes only those (non-rural) primary, manufactured and imported commodities which are included in the index for 100 commodities. Highly manufactured articles are not included. The individual items are listed on pages 488 and 489 of the "Official Year Book of New South Wales" for 1929.

25. WHOLESALE PRICE LEVELS OVERSEA.

	Year 1938.	Year 1939.	1940.									
			Aug.	April.	May.	June.	July.	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.
Great Britain—Board of Trade (1930=100)	101.4	102.8	98.1	132.2	133.7	134.4	139.7	140.1	141.1	142.7	146.9	...
United States — Irving Fisher (1926=100)	81.2	80.9	78.2	84.4	83.8	82.5	81.9	81.2	82.0	83.0	84.4	85.0*

*The average for the first two weeks of January, 1941, was 85.6.

26. PRICES OF METALS.

Average Monthly Prices of Metals (Export Parity f.o.b. Australia) in Australian Currency.

Period.						Silver (Standard).		Lead.		Zinc (Electrolytic).		Tin (Standard).		Gold (Fine).	
						per oz.		per ton.		per ton.		per ton.		per oz.	
						s.	d.	£	s. d.	£	s. d.	£	s. d.	£	s. d.
1928	...	...	...	...	...	2	2 79	19	11 7	26	5 8	219	7 5	4	4 11
1929	...	...	...	...	...	2	0 57	21	14 5	25	19 5	200	11 5	4	4 11
1938	...	...	...	...	...	2	0 14	17	12 11	19	12 10	228	11 10	8	17 2
1939	...	...	...	...	...	2	1 42	17	12 1	19	15 3	268	3 6	9	14 4
1940—	July	...	...	...	...	2	2 64	18	10 2	24	5 8	301	3 5	10	11 0
	August...	...	...	...	...	2	3 90	18	16 5	21	17 9	298	10 1	10	12 6
	September	...	...	...	...	2	4 33	18	8 3	24	12 11	287	9 7	10	13 3
	October	...	...	...	...	2	4 34	18	5 5	22	10 6	294	17 7	10	14 0
	November	...	...	...	...	2	4 07	18	14 8	22	0 6	293	2 0	10	14 0
	December	...	...	...	...	2	3 79	18	8 1	22	0 6	292	8 11	10	14 0

27. STOCK EXCHANGE INDEX (SYDNEY).

The following index of the values of the principal Company shares on Sydney Stock Exchange embraces the ordinary shares of companies (excluding banking companies) whose business is conducted wholly or largely in New South Wales.

The prices of individual shares are unweighted, and each group average is the mean of the average monthly prices per £ of paid-up capital. The aggregate index is the average for the whole of the shares included in the groups with the addition of 24 miscellaneous shares. There is no base period as the index represents the ratio per cent. of the average prices of ordinary shares to their par values; adjustment being made where capital is written off or bonus shares issued.

Month.	23 Manufacturing and Distributing Companies.	10 Retail Companies.	8 Public Utility Companies.	5 Pastoral and Finance Companies.	5 Insurance Companies.	Total* Companies 75.	34 Active Share included in foregoing.
April, 1929	£ 179.3	183.8	129.4	174.1	243.5	174.4	172.6
Sept., 1931	72.3	60.2	87.9	75.2	121.3	74.4	77.2
Mar., 1937	213.8	203.8	181.0	169.2	281.2	190.4	200.5
1940—Jan. ...	229.0	174.0	151.9	131.8	269.9	181.6	195.2
June ...	186.8	138.4	128.6	109.8	233.3	150.6	160.0
Sept....	207.0	157.5	133.5	110.4	234.9	162.1	176.4
Oct. ...	215.4	164.6	133.9	117.8	251.8	168.3	184.3
Nov. ...	219.9	174.1	140.3	120.8	256.7	172.8	186.2
Dec. ...	220.6	169.2	139.7	122.3	255.7	172.1	185.4
1941—Jan. ...	223.1	171.3	142.6	121.8	254.8	173.5	187.5

* Including 24 Miscellaneous Companies. § The highest point of the index, prior to the slump, was reached in April 1929, the lowest in September, 1931, and the highest point in March, 1937.

The population of N.S.W. at 30th September, 1940, was 2,793,321 or 39 per cent. of the total population of Australia (Sydney and Suburbs, 31st December, 1939, 1,302,890).

NOTICE.

This summary is issued as soon as practicable after the 20th of each month. The subscription for twelve months is 3s. (posted) payable to the Government Printer, Phillip-street, Sydney, or 3d. per single copy at the Government Printing Office. This charge applies in all cases, except exchanges and Government Departments.

The figures for the most recent months are, in general, subject to revision.

Bureau of Statistics and Economics, 61 Hunter-street, Sydney.
25th February, 1941.